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YOU ARE HERE: [HOME](#) / AN EPISCOPALIAN LAYS DOWN SOME DIVERSIONARY FIRE

An Episcopalian Lays Down Some Diversionary Fire

🕒 THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2012 BY 👤 [DOUGLAS WILSON](#) 💬 0 COMMENTS



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A friend sent me this, apropos of the discussion themes around here . . .

“Sex, as commonly conceived, is something a couple *do* together. But the sexual act itself is not quite like that. It is, and remains, something a man does to a woman. They are not both working at the same thing. He is giving, she is receiving. He is the lover, she the beloved. Now, if they both set out to “have some Sex,” the whole delicate balance is wrecked, and neither can find his own role. What is happening is that the *difference* we all love so dearly is taking a bad beating. The wife is being backed into a decreasingly feminine role, even in overtly sexual matters, and the husband is finding

that he has less and less of an object to be masculine toward. He is getting what he wants, but not what he needs. He asks frequently enough, but he has lost sight of what to ask for; and that is deadly" (Robert Farrar Capon, *Bed and Board*, p. 51)



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